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# PRAYERS FOR EVENTIDE

CHRISTIAN F. REISNER

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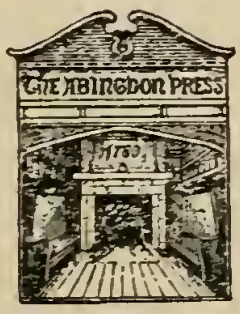
# PRAYERS FOR EVENTIDE

BY

CHRISTIAN F. REISNER

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★ PUBLISHERS' WEEKLY.

# A FOREWORD

The Editor of a church paper who speaks another language more fluently than the English said one day in personal conversation: "We use Week-Day Prayers at family worship. All the petitions, however, are worded for the morning. We usually utilize them at night. Could you not write another collection of prayers for the evening hour?" This request led to thoughtful endeavor through several months and culminated in Prayers for Eventide. They are prepared to fit a devotional period at the close of the day.

During the earth days of Bishop Warren "family prayers" were conducted at the close of evening dinner, around the table, before any one had arisen. This is a custom worth copying. The whole family is usually present at this meal and can spare the few extra moments for such a heart-sweetening exercise.

It is a serious thing to shape up prayer phrases for communing souls. Courage to put out this book would

have been lacking without the strong spoken and written words concerning the helpfulness of Week-Day Prayers.

The few forms for "Thanks for Daily Bread" are added because originally requested by parishioners.

Many prayers give too little attention to phrases and the subject matter of the petitions. Printed forms often help us to measure felt needs and aid in clarifying our vision of life. Stilted meaningless and unreal prayers put God afar and retard the flow of soothing peace and sap sustaining faith. We must come to God in the simple naturalness of a child. He pitieth "like as a Father" and so understands. Prayer will then truly bring manna and light, solace and rest.

May the Great Teacher bless these prayers to the spiritual upbuilding of all who use them.

Christian F. Reisner

*New York.*

# S U N D A Y

WE thank Thee, Our Father, for daily food, tasks fitting our talents, and the comfort found in sweet comradeship at eventide. We thank Thee for teacher and physician, for home and our country's flag, for loyal friends and testing critics. We bless Thee for searching problems and prescience to meet every issue; Thy grace is sufficient. Awaken the wealthy in mind or money, to spend themselves as stewards until the brotherhood of the Kingdom brings peace and plenty to all. Deliver reformers from the despair of lost hope. Shame the defamers of the present who picture it as degenerate. Open our eyes to the increase of Christ's rule on earth. Fit us to helpfully cooperate with our church and her leaders. Bless all Christian workers at home and abroad. So sustain us with faith that we may cheer the lonely, brighten the burdened, and remind the sinners of a sufficient Saviour. Cool the fever of weariness and soothe all powers into sleep that the night may bring rest. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# MONDAY

WE rejoice, O Son of man, that Thou hast tasted our frailty; and so Thou canst read our weakness. Supply us with needed strength. Evil besets us and our flesh is frail. Our daily failures oft depress; we meant to do so much better. The evening shadows vivify life's ending. Special trials strain us and moral problems cloud and bewilder. We need Thee, O God, as does the drooping plant the rain. Revive our courage and refresh our faith. Develop our native gifts so that we may fight invincibly. We bless Thee for past conquests and assurances for victory in future contests. May we grow in holiness. Teach us from the saintly lives all about, and sanctify for our enrichment each daily experience. Sustain us steadily with an optimism born of faith. Every knee will some day bow. Breathe repose over our spirits until all disquiet disappears, and so refresh us with sweetest sleep for the morrow's service. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# TUESDAY

WE thank Thee, O Son of man, that Thou didst walk earth and art touched by our infirmities. Light this place by Thy presence in the quiet of eventide. We need the sight splendid which Thy face brings to banish our weary listlessness and revive our deadened ambition. Our prayer words fall flat, visions are curtained away from us, and our hearts feel no thrill of fellowship. Our souls grow lonely. But Thou art here. Thy ear is open and Thy hand of help is near. We grow calm in this consciousness. Bathe us in Thy love. Furnish us against faint-heartedness. Banish the despair wrought by doubting our worth to Thee. May the tasks Thou dost assign culture our spiritual nature into full strength. Keep us neighborly to all members of Thy great family. May we forget ourselves in sincere service to others. Having done our best, may we rest in the Everlasting Arms. Hush into quiet all mental movements threatening the night's fullest repose. Protect us through the dangers of the dark and awaken us equipped with courage and composure for the day's duties. In the name of our Elder Brother. Amen.

# WEDNESDAY

WE rejoice, O God, that Thou didst provide a Teacher for our ignorance; we do lack wisdom. Selfishness so easily crowds in amidst our engrossing daily toil and unconsciously commands us. We neglect civic duties and carelessly allow others to settle vital governmental problems. Forgive us and awaken a firm purpose this quiet evening hour, to bear for Thy glory our share of citizenship burdens. We thank Thee, O Father of our country, for America and her churches and privileges. We thank Thee for the self-sacrificing soldiers and statesmen in all the past. Make us worthy heirs. Plant priceless patriotism in our hearts and lead us along paths of peace. Breathe on us a spirit of brotherliness until foreign marks are forgotten and all our people are merged into a real union. Armor us to rout wrongs; build a persistency that never knows defeat. Control us with an ascending ideal that, forgetting the past, pushes always for a better future. Guard us through the night watches and build us in body and spirit for the morrow's work. For the gladness of man and the glory of God we ask it. Amen.

# THURSDAY

WE are faint and weary, our Father, from the day's varied demands. We thank Thee that forthcoming events are all veiled; grace is supplied moment by moment. Our patience has been sorely tried by many problems. Ease the stings our sharp words have started. Purpose us to be gentle to friends and home folks; we are often least considerate of them. We thank Thee for child-life and the sweet fragrance of its innocence. We bless Thee for endearing ties so cheering in dark hours. We rejoice in the priceless privileges found in the home atmosphere; confirm our purpose to contribute to it by thoughtful deeds and kindly spirit. Teach us self-control until no fiery temper of ours shall poison the happy air of the domestic circle. Set us on guard lest we fail to rightly influence the boys and girls about us. May our speech and actions be worthy of imitation. In this quiet hour we bow humbly for cleansing and renewal of courage. Fence us away from all disturbing noises until rest sweetens and strengthens us for the duties of the dawn. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# F R I D A Y

WE thank Thee, Good Father, for protection from countless dangers this day. When we remember avoided accidents and powers which if discordant could destroy, we know anew that Thou didst make the world for man. So furnish us with faith and service that if sudden death should come we may enter Thy presence without fear or confusion. Comfort those who sorrow for the injured or killed. Pacify those who pray with blind terror because of some staggering event. Teach us Thy way so that beautiful nature and bountiful forces about us may contribute to and never disturb our happiness. Eye hath not yet seen the things Thou hast prepared on this earth for man. Day by day Thou art revealing new helpers beforetime hidden in the storehouses of air and earth and sea. Woo us to Thee, Good Master, as a mother does her sobbing child. Show Thy face in the midst of our cares and problems and doubtings. Sweeten our sad hours with memories of happy yesterdays. Clear our vision when night's weariness enlarges failures and losses until counted blessings bring joy and content-

ment. Guard us against disturbing dreams, restless dreads, and anxiety concerning the coming day. Atmosphere us with peace; sweeten us with trust; dominate us with love; then shall this night bring rest. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# SATURDAY

WE come, our loving Father, this week-end hour, needy, but expectant and confident. The daily tasks have sapped our strength, tested our temper, and clouded our sight; weariness lies heavy upon us. Freshen us with appropriated promises as rain does the thirsty fields. Our souls long for Thee, O Holy One, ever-present Friend. Thou hast made us capable of conscious companionship. Train us in the cultivation of spiritual sensitiveness; deliver us from moral dullness. Preserve us from the paralyzing money mania now abroad. Develop in us the art of thoughtful tenderness. Train us to testify for Thee as freely as we witness for other friends. Flavor all our speech with a brotherly spirit. Determine us to discount a piety that demands the unnatural. Keep us joyfully human. We thank Thee for glad memories of fellowship with friends and with the Unfailing One. We bless Thee for faith-building spiritual visions and assigned duties proving our worth to the world. We rejoice in the Spirit which guides moment by moment and is not easily grieved. Give us the repose this night which

belongeth to Thy sheltered ones; so shall we meet the new day with "strength sufficient." In the name of Our Elder Brother. Amen.

# S U N D A Y

ACCEPT our gratitude, gracious Shepherd, for this day's comforts and care. We thank Thee for victories over sloth and joylessness. We rejoice in the recollection of the good things our eyes have seen. We mourn over the failures of Thy followers. Our weakness discourages, but the memory of Thy patience restores courage. Preserve us from the poison of prejudice. Save us from the hardening which hate works. Forewarn us against the dehumanizing power of a dominating spirit of revenge. Shame us from satisfaction in noting another's imperfections. Sensitize our sympathy; perfume our pity with love divine. Graciously enrich our personality and strengthen our faith in the Saviour's sufficiency. Employ our own faults to make us tenderly patient with others; may doubting despair never drive us to deliver another over to evil habits. Incarnate Thy mercy in our words and ways. May the morning's dawn find us fresh and furnished for all tasks Thou shalt assign. In the Name Wonderful. Amen.

# M O N D A Y

WE thank Thee, O God, Creator of earth's rich stores, for daily food, helping friends, and teachful experiences. We thank Thee for summer skies, for billowing grain fields, for rest after toil, and for Thine unfailing care. Quiet our fears as we recognize past directions amidst daily doings. Renew our vision of the Good Shepherd who leadeth always and faileth never; surely goodness and mercy have followed us. Make us worthy recipients of God's manifold blessings. Purpose us to be good citizens in public advocacy, in party council and vote, and by prime service if called to office. Furnish us to be faithful fathers and mothers, honoring sons and daughters, loyal and helpful disciples. Aid the fine promises of boys and the high resolves of girls and feed the best in all of us until it shall be masterful. Forgive the failures of to-day and enable us to mend the breaches made by our misdeeds. Still all the storms that spoil our sleep and refurnish our wearied powers with sweetest slumber. Awaken us fresh with faith for to-morrow and what it may bring. In Our Master's Name. Amen.

# TUESDAY

WE thank Thee, our Father, for our homes, our friends, and our country. In this evening hour we recall the daily ministrations of earthly dear ones and pray that we may show ourselves worthy by being a blessing to the world.

We thank Thee for victory in mission fields. We bless Thee for a spiritual message which meets every nation's need. Awaken our zeal and affirm our purpose to follow Thy will by carrying the gospel to every creature. Equip us to arouse those asleep to the many calls for service and to answer those finding fault with foreign missions. Strengthen our faith so that we will gladly obey if the call comes for foreign service or gifts at great sacrifice. Feed into strength a patient optimism that overmasters discouragement; Thou hast promised, "Every knee shall bow." Invigorate our natures with meat from Thy Word. Store leavening power within us, until no day shall pass without our fellows are affected helpfully. Still our whole being so that the night's sleep may rebuild our physical powers for the day's strain. In the Elder Brother's Name. Amen.

# WEDNESDAY

WE thank Thee, Good Shepherd, that Thy leading never leaveth us alone. Glorify Thyself, Great Master, by overcoming our self-will. Awaken our best selves so often smothered by sin. Fill our souls, O Love Divine, until the finest virtues flower and come to fruit. We rejoice that underneath us are the Everlasting Arms. Save us from terror by walking on the waves when our storms threaten. We thank Thee for the lessons learned in trial times. Smooth and light our faces with the composure of faith. May our quiet confidence bring soothing assurance to the confused and complaining. Store us with healing, helping love. Fortify our patience that we may be prompt in forgiving others. Quicken our sense of appreciation; teach us ready words of sincere gratitude and give us graceful art in their prompt expression. So channel Thy blessings through us that men will believe in God because of our vital goodness. Rest our souls and bodies through the curtained hours that we may worthily work with Thee in every walk of the to-morrow. In the Name Above Every Name. Amen.

# THURSDAY

O GOD, our Father, we collect our thoughts and bring them into Thy presence, this eventide, for inspection and judgment. May thy blood cleanse the sin stains, Thy love pardon the failures, and Thy wisdom strengthen us where weak.

We are Thy children; we lose that consciousness so often and then carry all of life's loads. We fret and tire and long for friends as we neglect fellowship with Thee. We seem so insignificant in this big world. May we breathe in the fragrance of Thy love as we pause in prayer. Smile our worrying fears into peace and clear the path beclouded by bewildering problems. Ease the ache of tantalizing remorse and dull the sting of self-belittling memories. Rebuke our complaints with recollections of the many blessings. Sustain our hearts with gladness so that we may sunshine others. Knit together all the unravelments in our lives with the night's repose so that the morrow shall find us fresh and well-furnished. Thine shall be the glory. Amen.

# F R I D A Y

LORD JESUS, we come to Thee as humble pupils to a loved Teacher. We are slow and dull and hence often miss messages sent in daily happenings. Enable us to absorb Thy life as the eye does light and the heart love. *We are in Thy presence.* We thank Thee for Thy footmarks in nature. Thou hast made the world beautiful and stored it richly for man's happiness. Deliver us from Satan, who so disorders the individual that earth becomes to him a desert. Enable us so to walk with Thee that we may enjoy the world as God's garden made for man. We thank Thee for ice to cool in summer and coal to warm in winter. We thank Thee for the rippling lakes, rushing brooks, and tossing ocean. We thank Thee for rollicking boys and girls, adviceful friends, and the sunny-faced aged ones. We thank Thee for stirring stories, stimulating sermons, and lessonful incidents. Sustain our patience, calm our fears, and soothe our fretting into peace. So overshadow us during the night watches that we may meet our tomorrow clothed in the majesty of a confident faith. In the name of Jesus. Amen.

# SATURDAY

WEARINESS lies heavy upon us to-night, Our Master; give Thou us repose. We thank Thee for the new seasons, the clouds and sunshine, the charming landscapes and the changing faces; variety freshens our interest and so brightens the hours. Deliver us from the despair hopelessness brings. Confirm our conviction that no power can baffle Thy plans for obedient believers. Purpose us to fix prayer periods that shall furnish us for the hours of temptation and discouragement. Store us with cheer to scatter into hearts not yet sustained by faith. Employ us to awaken the listless and energize the drones made so by doubt. May Thy life so glow through us to others that blasting frosts may become feeding dews for many who are our neighbors. We thank Thee for the quiet of night in which to measure Thy leadings; may thankfulness open our eyes to the presence of the Master as our Guest. Sweeten sleep by Thy care and build our powers for better service on the morrow. And so we rest in Thee, O God, our Redeemer and Lord. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# S U N D A Y

WE thank Thee, O Master of Love, for the regular refreshments life brings us. We bless Thee for vacation periods, for the sleep of the quiet night, for the clouds that curtain the scorching sun and spill showers upon the thirsty fields, for the cheering visits of leal-hearted friends—for rest after earnest toil. Build into strength, O Thou Architect of Character, all our best traits. Empower us to tear out the despoiling and hindering habits. May high purposes overmaster all low designs and check cheap activities. Sweeten our sour humors and tempers. Shame our surliness that irritates and aggravates. Still into quiet all the voices crying for revenge. Uproot the selfishness which flowers in a sensitive nursing of real and imagined affronts. Check the criticisms that creep into conversation. May our family circle be shielded from love-curdling dissension. Guide us through the twilight hours and close our eyelids with peaceful thoughts. Awaken us on the morrow strong for whatever the day brings. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# MONDAY

WE come to Thee, Great Master, from the steady round of the day's work. We easily get buried in our tasks and so become merely mechanical. Our duties seem common and insignificant. Restore our vivacity. Preserve our youthfulness in the freshening sense of our sonship.

We thank Thee, loving Father, for the strength and optimism of the young. We thank Thee for the effective outlet enthusiasm finds in Thy service. We are thrilled by the privilege of putting our best into building Thy Kingdom. Preserve our purity. Yoke the sunniness of our youth to enduring causes. Multiply visions which can be translated into deeds. Supply courage for carrying any cross that comes. Save our sympathies from souring and keep our tempers cool. Guard us against false egotism. Mellow us until the self-sufficient spirit is impossible. Purpose us to cultivate tenderness toward older people. Sustain our patience while dealing with the slow. Direct all our plans and strength until we come into the full likeness of Thy beauty. Throughout the night feed our waking meditations with soul-

sweetening truth. Arouse us, after refreshing sleep, inspirited for eager and earnest endeavor as Thy co-workers. Amen.

# TUESDAY

GUIDE our evening meditations, Good Master, until the glow of gratitude suffuses us and peace flows sweetly through our souls.

We thank Thee, O Jehovah God, that all Thy laws come from a Father's heart. May we see that sin is forbidden because it destroys. We thank Thee that, in Thy presence is fullness of joy; Thy yoke is easy and Thy burden is light. Shame us from riotous and disorderly habits that separate us from earthly friends and shut us out of heaven. Enable us to happily follow Thy leadings. Safeguard us against embittering jealousy. Gladden our service by making it spontaneous with love. Preserve, fresh and sweet, our pity for the outcast, and send us out into life's byways to be saviours of men. May we everywhere be honoring sons of God and helping brothers of man. We bless Thee for soothing sleep that banishes care and builds for the new contests. Shut out all mournings over mistakes and fears for the things to follow and give us repose throughout the night. In the name of Thy Son and our Brother Amen.

# WEDNESDAY

WE thank Thee for earth's harmonies. Everywhere Thine unhampered rule brings happiness. We thank Thee for music in the free life of springtime birds, in the mirth of laughing children, in the concord and cadence of schooled voices and sweet-noted instruments. We thank Thee for beauty in the flowers of the field, in the changing forms of human faces, and in fadeless art, the skilled product of man's hand. We thank Thee for rich fellowships among cheering comrades, amidst the testing marts of trade, around the hallowed home circle, and in all life's crowded ways. Keep our natures open to all such ennobling influences. In this quiet eventide mark the day's defects and give grace for amendment. Send us to repose with restful thoughts of Thy patience, Thy pardon, and Thy near presence and high purpose for our lives. So may we sleep as behooveth Thy beloved ones. In the name of the Prince of Peace. Amen.

# THURSDAY

WE thank Thee, Our Father, for this day's tokens of Thy love. Our hearts thrill with hopeful trust and all fear is removed as we review Thy care. Establish in our memory, with vivid gratitude, the measured blessings to reassure us during the day's testing toil. Save us from paralyzing bewilderment before the many openings for service; guide us into the ripest fields through the gates ajar. Root deeply into our conscience an arousing sense of responsibility. Deliver us from deadening formality; inspirit us with a vital personal experience. Make sin revolting; deepen our convictions against dangerous compromises. Awaken us to earnest efforts for the spread of the pure gospel; purpose us to obey the "Go ye into all the world." Endow us to economize our forces. Give workers everywhere the vision that exalts effort and makes personality magnetic. Solace us with the peace divine which neither past failures nor anxious futures can disturb. Guard us through the night and awaken us on the morrow in conscious companionship with Thee. Thine shall be the glory. Amen.

# F R I D A Y

TEACH us, O God, through daily experiences, the calming strength of confident trust. Worry wears our nerves, responsibility routs our reserve power, and ill usage irritates patience to the breaking point. But Thy manifested favor gives full assurance of relief in due season. Settle us, Our Father, into the solidity of conscious sonship with Christ. Save the prosperous from the vices which grow like weeds in rich soil. Selfishness often thrives on success, while sweetness settles into the soul through suffering. This day has seen many defeats. Forgive our ugly flings. Pardon our petulant complaints. Purge us from falseness in plan or procedure. Rearrange the furniture of our souls, O Master, and so compose us during the night watches that the morrow shall find our best in command. Guard our dear ones from harm. Bring erring ones into the fold of love. These and all things we ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

# SATURDAY

WE thank Thee for the Christian Sabbath; manhood's source of strength. We rejoice in the fragrant memories of friendships and soul-fashioning influences. We bless Thee for the benefit brought by the day to the burdened, to worshiping groups, and to the thoughtful everywhere. Season us against harshness or looseness in the use of Sunday. Settle us to refresh our souls in the day's doings as is thirst by a cooling drink or weariness by the night's sweet sleep; satisfy us with manna. Stimulate an appetite that gathers honey in all the Sabbath services. May we worship in spirit and in truth. Save folk from the snare offered by noisy amusements, soul-numbing activities, and recreation serving only the physical. Purpose us to fix a period and select helps for developing the spiritual which alone gives visions of God and guides amidst daily needs. Teach us the rich meaning of "Remember the rest day to keep it holy." So possess our souls, O Christ, and soothe our bodies that strength may come with the morning light for all the day may bring. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# S U N D A Y

WE come to Thee, O Source of all help, conscious of countless needs. Our failures oppress, our small accomplishments surprise, and our sins shame us. We come with sorrow for stubbornness and new purposes for obedience. Smile forgiveness and refreshing hope into our hungry hearts this evening hour.

We thank Thee, Great Teacher, for Thy clear warnings; love shines through them. Deliver us from being dullards; attune our spirits for hearing every heavenly message. Check us in life's hurry for quiet hours of fellowship. Steady our minds with meditations upon our origin and destiny. May our faces radiate Thy joy. Electrify us with an eager ambition fitted to our talents and tasks. Preserve the peculiarities of our personalities. Strengthen us with the sweet assurance of faith and a glowing heart of affection. Fortify us against being empty imitators; light us with life divine. Quiet all disturbing thoughts until freshening repose revive and refurnish us; sweeten our spirits with memories of Thy Fatherhood so that we may meet the dawn with strength. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# MONDAY

WE remember, O God, amidst the trials of our toil that Thou didst live incarnate in the Carpenter of Nazareth. Protect us from poisoning our minds with the prejudice of selfishness which then passes our decisions as conscientious. May our discipleship be such a badge of honor to the business world that men may trust our word and bank upon our uprightness. Material losses and failures oft tempt us to turn the sharp trick or dodge the signed contract. The long week is ahead; this first workaday has fallen short of our ideals; Sunday's spiritual stimulus has not been translated into expected success. Succor us lest we sour under failure. Revive our high purposes to be patient, sweeten our spirits unto gentleness and strengthen our zeal to serve everywhere. We thank Thee for victories over spite, for calmness amidst aggravations, for hope amidst depression. Brood over us during the night season so that our souls may be in repair with the opening of the new day. In Our Master's Name. Amen.

# TUESDAY

OUR souls long for Thee, O God, "as the hart panteth after the water brooks." We thank Thee that no night can darken the "pillar of fire" or storm deaden the "still small voice." We rejoice that no power can paralyze Thy love. We alone can shut out its sweetness and strength. May children walk Thy ways assured that happiness thus will come into every day. May stalwart youth follow Thee with the glad acclaim of victors. May ripened adults seek Thy counsels as the wisdom-source for every hour. May Thy Spirit sweeten the discouraged, soothe the sick, sunshine the bewildered and furnish the weak to "walk and not faint." We rejoice that Thou art near whether we be "in the valley" or "beside the still waters." Give probity for business problems, wisdom for tangled domestic worries, gentleness for those with real or fancied grievances, and steadiness of high purpose amidst all temptations. Cool our fevered brows, stop the busy brain and send refreshing sleep through the night season, so that we may fitly serve Thee at tomorrow's tasks. In Jesus' name.

# WEDNESDAY

WE bow in Thy presence, O God at this day's close, with gratitude and a sincere spirit of worship. We remember, Good Master, that we are to be a "peculiar people"; Thou hast ordained us to scatter holiness over the earth. We are to be "living epistles" before the eyes of men. Forgive our slothfulness and pardon our inconsistencies. Correct our crooked ways and furnish us to mend our mistakes. Remove the traits that irritate others and cleanse our loves and thoughts. Relate our talents to some one needing their aid. Open our ears to Thy calls; No special lifework is superior to another if Thou dost assign. Some are ministers, some are merchants, some are mothers, but all are to be helpers of mankind. We rejoice, O Father-God, that Thou art the Overseer and Rewarder. Equip us to be a blessing everywhere, every hour and in all ways to everyone. Revive the discouraged with visions of certain success, rest the weary with Thy peace and soothe all into sweetening sleep until tomorrow's toil shall beckon to heartiest effort. In the name of the Carpenter of Nazareth. Amen.

# THURSDAY

FORGIVE us, Great Master, for the fretful friction with folk and dishonoring incidents of the day; harmonize all discords. Merge us into sincerest sympathy with each other. Abide Thou within our group in these our evening devotions.

We thank Thee, Our Father, for Thy rich provisions for man. Thy patience is past computation and shames our cold complaints. We thank Thee that Israel's manna may be ours; the feast is spread for the meditating heart. Uncover the shallowness of pleasure which precludes the Guest of Cana. We thank Thee for the magnetic story of the Saviour, Jesus of Nazareth, which we may retell. Spur us to crowd our minds with truth-facts about Thee, O Master. Balance our speech with tact. Confirm our efforts with a confident purpose to win disciples. Saturate us with the Spirit's power. Put the pathos of Christ into our voices. Keep us working as heaven's ambassadors until Thy kingdom does indeed come on earth. Send sweetest sleep, so that all our powers shall be at their best for to-morrow's service. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# F R I D A Y

AS the curtains of the day fall and we recall our hard experiences, O Man of Sorrows, we rejoice that Thou dost see and sympathize with earth's sufferings. May Thy grace turn our wounds into pearls and so save us from being scarred by them. Give us courage to carry our own crosses. As does the growing grass, so may we turn intended poisons into the adorning green of a quenchless life.

So anchor us, O God of Hosts, that like oaks we may strengthen amidst earth's storms. Bless the blighted, comfort the sick and sad, save the sin-enslaved, give pardon's peace to the penitent and faith's light to the doubt darkened. Teach us, Great Victor of Earth's desolate days, until our night-like hours shall fit us to be the helper of the desolate everywhere.

We thank Thee, O Christ of Calvary, that Thou art also the Jesus of Olivet; the darkness of Friday became the Sunrise of Easter. Quiet our fears when daylight is dim and bring us home at the last to the Father's house. Charm away our weariness with the magic of sleep through the night watches —For Jesus' sake. Amen.

# SATURDAY

WE thank Thee, great and tender Saviour, for the peace provided by the mercy seat; pardon is assured the penitent. Speak into quiet, O Master, all unsettling thoughts and banish all fearsome phantoms. Revive us with noted tokens of Thy care. We thank Thee that the Book Divine is open to common minds. We thank Thee that it deals with directions for daily tasks; that it meets our needs of the nowadays and is not antiquated. Set us to studying it sanely and seriously. Balance our judgment as we weigh and work out its messages. Bring us to the Book with full appreciation of its human naturalness; save us from misting it with mystical meanings. Settle us into a research that will unravel its involved sentences and symbols; make us persistent pupils. Employ our imagination until our emotions thrill as we see and hear Thee in the Book. And so reassure us until strained nerves are soothed and earth's din is hushed in the sleep that belongeth to Thy beloved ones. In the name of the Stiller of Storms, Jesus Our Lord. Amen.



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# GRACE AT MEAT

WE thank Thee, our Father, for this food and for our friendship with each other. We rejoice as we read Thy love spelled out in daily provisions for all needs. Give us grace and guidance, that we may do good in this world and enter the homeland at life's end. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

BE Thou, O Master, an abiding Guest at this table as we break bread together. Preserve our cheeriness; check our complaints and merge us into happy fellowship. Glorify Thyself in our speech and service to man through every day. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

FOR this food, this fellowship, and the health and spirit to enjoy both we are thankful. Be thou present at our board, O Lord, and send us to our work freshened by a new sense of Thy leadership. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# GRACE AT MEAT

WE remember, O God, that every good gift comes from Thee. Our fears calm in the face of Thy full provision for man. Sanctify this food to our health and so lead us that we may fairly employ our strength for the happiness of others. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

WE thank Thee, Lord Jesus, for the manifest tokens of the Good Shepherd's presence. Surely we "lie down in green pastures" and are led "beside the still waters." Mellow our hearts with sympathy as we break bread together and gladden us with gratitude as we move amidst our countless blessings. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

FOR this fellowship with friends in the breaking of bread we give Thee thanks. Be present, Christ Jesus, as Guide and Friend and so flavor our conversation that cheer may be common to all. Sanctify the food so that the strength gained may be spent for Thy glory. Amen.

# GRACE AT MEAT

FOR all the reminders of Thy love and care make us grateful, O Head of our household, Friend divine. May we partake of this food with joy and go out to use the strength gained for man's gladdening and God's glory. Melt our circle into sweetest friendliness. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

FOR this food and daily benedictions we are grateful, O God, Provider of all good. May our fellowship so illustrate brotherliness that the world may indeed believe that God is our Father. In the Master's Name. Amen.

WE thank Thee, Good Master, for home, friends, and worthy tasks. Bless the ministering hands that prepared this food for which we thank Thee. May Thy love so control us that all our strength may be spent for Thy glory. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# GRACE AT MEAT

SWEETEN our circle, O Christ of Nazareth, until our fellowship shall be as rich as that which belongeth to God's family folk. Bless this food and gladden us with gratitude in the presence of our blessings. Furnish us to be a helpful friend always and everywhere. In the Elder Brother's Name. Amen.

WE thank Thee, our Father, that every good gift comes from Thee. In Thy care we see Thy love. Bless our fellowship. Gift us to be good friends and sanctify this food to our upbuilding. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

WE, Thy children, freshly acknowledge our dependence upon Thee, O God, as we again partake of these bounties. So sunshine us with the love Thy care bespeaks that gloom may flee away and joy may abide at our board. Show Thyself, O Master, within our circle as of old-time at the Emmaus table, that we too may know that Thou didst come in with us. Abide Thou always as Chief Guest. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

# GRACE AT MEAT

FOR this goodly fellowship, Our Father, we thank Thee. We bless Thee for this nourishing food, Thy loving favor, and our unbroken family. Attune our hearts into harmony as we break bread together until heartiest happiness shall dwell in our household. Store us with Thy love, O Lord, for the world's need. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

WE thank Thee, Our Father, for the cheer these good friends bring to our table. Sweeten our fellowship with sincere appreciation for each other and glad gratitude to the Giver of every good. Furnish us in this happy hour to brighten the burdened, or blighted, ones unaided by such friendships. Refresh our souls, lest the body be too masterful, O Master divine. In Jesus' Name. Amen.

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